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ITW



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Attorney Docket No.: 100806-00056 (NEKU 19.181)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor: Eiki HASHIMOTO

Confirmation No.: 5984

Serial No.: 10/015,209

Filed: November 16, 2001

Title: **SEMICONDUCTOR CIRCUIT DESIGNING APPARATUS  
AND A SEMICONDUCTOR CIRCUIT DESIGNING METHOD  
IN WHICH THE NUMBER OF STEPS IN A CIRCUIT DESIGN  
AND A LAYOUT DESIGN IS REDUCED**

Examiner: Annette M. Thompson

Group Art Unit: 2825

May 12, 2005

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT**

*Please E-File*  
*[Signature]*  
SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated April 6, 2005, please amend the subject application as follows.